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United States Patent [19]
Rhoads

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[54] **METHODS FOR SURVEYING
 DISSEMINATION OF PROPRIETARY
 EMPIRICAL DATA**

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Related U.S. Application Data

- [63] Continuation of PCT/US96/06618, filed May 7, 1996 continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 637,531, Apr. 25, 1996, and a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 534,005, Sep. 25, 1995, and a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 598,083, Jul. 27, 1995, and a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 436,102, May 8, 1995, Pat. No. 5,748,783, and a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 327,426, Oct. 21, 1994, Pat. No. 5,768,426, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 215,289, Mar. 17, 1994, abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 154,866, Nov. 18, 1993, abandoned.

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 [58] Field of Search **382/232, 284;**
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

An automated system checks networked computers, such as computers on the internet, for watermarked audio, video, or image data. A report listing the location of such audio, video or image data is generated, and provided to the proprietor(s) thereof identified by the watermark information.

18 Claims, 34 Drawing Sheets

